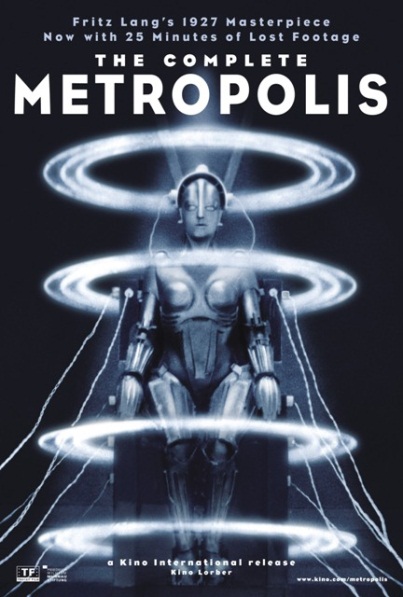
**GATTACA Theme** Read and respond to each of the following in a paragraph in your exercise book or download document from the wiki and type up your responses.

1. Comment on the **role of technology** in the film. Consider the thematic connection between technology and human life. What attitudes to technology run through the film? What attitude is conveyed about genetic engineering?
2. Notice three key elements: **The Gattaca Corporation, the hierarchy of society and the narrow focus of the valids.** Consider the ways the film uses three elements to evoke its image of a world dominated by science. What comment is being made about human responsibility?
3. Respond to the view that **the film is a warning about the dangers of letting scientific ability outstrip ethics.** Give examples form the film and widen your discussion to include examples from recent and current events.
4. The portrayal of the world of the film as cold and impersonal underlines the themes of the **dehumanising process that science seems necessarily to result in**. You might wish to compare Gattaca with other dystopian films which are similarly bleak. Do you see the future as cold and impersonal? Is the film reminding us of the importance of our psychological health? Discuss this?

“It was their hands that built this city of ours, Father. But where do the hands belong in your scheme?”

“They don't want you to know what you are.”

“His love is real, but he is not”

“Man Has Made His Match... Now It's His Problem.”

1. **Coldness versus passion.** The film raises the theme of attitude to life. Should we follow the pattern of the Gattaca Corporation with its clear focus, its selection of the best examples of humanity, its clinical and almost robotic approach to life? No matter what shape the world is in, individuals must commit to an attitude to life. The attitude of love and friendship and romance is raised. What is revealed?
2. The **struggle of Vincent *against all odds*** provides both the source of tension in the film and the sense of unreality that is also present in the Science Fiction aspect of the film. However, because the film is set in the near future we are more inclined to accept most of it. Indeed, people are probably saying that ‘most of what is shown in the film is now scientifically possible.’ Nonetheless, Vincent makes the point ‘I was never more certain of how far away I was from my dream than when I was standing right next to it.’ The very nature of dreams is highlighted here. Supporting this aspect of the film is the other aspect of \*indomitability of the human spirit. (\*very determined and impossible to defeat)
3. What do you make of the fate of Jerome in the context of the theme of **the indomitability of the human spirit**? Is his sacrifice one of selfless support of Vincent or does it represent despair?